

## How You Can Help

There are many ways you can help us, particularly in your own community:

- ❁ Clear snow and ice from sidewalks and steps next to your property. This is required by D.C. law within the first eight hours of daylight after the snow, freezing rain or sleet stops. Spread sand if ice can't be cleared.
- ❁ Clear snow from fire hydrants and catch basins.
- ❁ Put all cleared snow, such as from parked cars and sidewalks, in the "tree box" between the curb and sidewalk, **not in the street**.
- ❁ ***Please help elderly and physically challenged neighbors who may find it difficult to clear snow from around their homes.***



Neighbors join DC Public Schools Superintendent Paul Vance (2nd from right) to clear snow at West Elementary School last winter.



Photographs by: Lateef Magnum, EOM; Ronald Thomas, DCPS;  
Daniel Harrison, DDOT; Mark Brown, DPW



**d.**  
District Department of Transportation  
Department of Transportation  
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SNOW IS COMING - BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

# Preparing for SNOW



How you  
can help us  
help you



**d.**  
District Department of Transportation



District of Columbia Government  
Anthony A. Williams, Mayor





## DDOT and DPW: Your Snow Partners

Snow is a normal part of winter in the District, and the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) works with the Department of Public Works (DPW) to respond to winter weather.

Please take a moment to read this pamphlet and see how you can help us and your fellow residents during the snow season.

- ✿ The more snow and ice there is and the colder the weather, the longer it takes to clear our streets. So please be patient, especially during and after a major snow storm.
- ✿ When it snows, it's generally a good idea to avoid traveling or to take public transportation.
- ✿ Remember, we clear our main roads first and then move into residential areas to make these streets "passable" but not necessarily plowed to bare pavement. Alleys are not plowed because there is no place to put the extra snow – we don't want to bury garbage containers or block garages.
- ✿ Call **202-727-1000, the Mayor's Citywide Call Center** to report problems and for updates, but please wait until we've had time to clear the streets.

Outside of snow, **DDOT** and **DPW** have the following separate duties:

**DDOT:** responsible for building and maintaining streets, bridges and alleys; public space regulation; signs; parking meters; street lights; traffic signals; parking and traffic policy; trees.

**DPW:** responsible for solid waste collection and disposal; parking enforcement; recycling; street and alley cleaning.

## The District Responds

The District's snow response depends on how fast snow has fallen and how much there is; the temperature and ice conditions over the course of the storm; and the spacing of successive storms. Because public safety is the priority, clearing and salting efforts focus initially on major thoroughfares and bridges, including Snow Emergency Routes. We also pay particular attention to narrow, steep or shaded streets.



Mayor Williams



*This street has been plowed. While there is still snow on the pavement, it is passable.*

For snowfalls up to 4 inches, trash pickup, recycling and Metrobus service will generally be on normal schedules with some delays; with 4-8 inches of snow, trash and recycling may be delayed or suspended and Metrobuses may be delayed, especially if there is freezing rain or ice.



For snowstorms of 8 inches or more, trash and recycling will be suspended until streets and alleys are cleared; Metrobuses will be limited to Snow Emergency Routes with delays possible.



*This street is unplowed and not passable.*



When a snow emergency is declared, **DO NOT PARK** on Snow Emergency Routes. Parking is banned on these routes to provide unimpeded curb-to-curb plowing. Illegally parked vehicles are

subject to a \$250 fine and/or towing to a nearby non-emergency street.

To locate a towed vehicle, call 202-727-5000.

Listen to the media or call the Mayor's Citywide Call Center (202-727-1000) to find out if a snow emergency is in effect or not.